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notion of the intellectual grasp of one of the most celebrated Chinese authors. In No. 6, there is an exceedingly interesting account of the efforts which have been made to translate the Scriptures into Chinese.

We have been struck with the proof, which these numbers offer, of the amazing weakness of the Chinese intellect. The tone of thought, in the specimens of poetry here translated, never rises above a contemptible mediocrity; the construction of sentences and the succession of ideas, utterly deficient in the graces of composition and the strength and point of logical arrangement, are singularly like the awkward efforts of a schoolboy, in writing his first theme. As to poetical beauty, ideal elevation of character, choice expression, and sublime imagery, which are necessary elements of poetical literature, these seem never to have dawned upon the solemn and ceremonious dulness of the Celestial Empire.

12. — *A New Dictionary of the English Language*. By CHARLES RICHARDSON. Part. I. London; William Pickering. New-York; William Jackson. 1836. 4to. pp. 80.

WE have examined the first part of this new dictionary with considerable attention. The author has adopted the principle of Horne Tooke, as to the original meaning of words, and has attempted to illustrate the secondary and derivative meanings in chronological order. The series of quotations, arranged on this principle, are judiciously selected, and present an interesting historical view of the words which they are cited to illustrate. In regard to the definitions, it strikes us that they are too scanty; a defect which is perhaps inherent in the method adopted, of arranging the derivative words under their respective primitives. A dictionary constructed on this plan, will be unquestionably of great use and interest to the philosophical reader, who consults it mainly to learn the varying shades of meaning through which a word has passed, in the usage of different writers and of successive ages. But we apprehend that those who look for precise, compact, and yet full definitions, — such as, perhaps, a new dictionary of the English language ought to supply, — will experience some disappointment. Still, a work of this kind, planned and executed with the ability which this specimen manifests, will be a valuable contribution to the accessible stores of English philology.